

Aims of the meeting©

We are happy to invite you to an interdisciplinary Nordic-Baltic meeting, organized by the Research Centre for Zoonotic Ecology and Epidemiology in collaboration with the Department of Clinical Microbiology and the Department of Infectious Diseases, Kalmar County Hospital, and the Department of Natural Sciences, University of Kalmar.

The main purpose of this meeting is to bring together scientists from both basic and clinical science, active in the field of tick-borne infections, in order to increase networking and inter-disciplinary collaboration between human and veterinary medicine, microbiology, entomology and other relevant disciplines.

More specifically, the meeting aims to

- give an overview of current knowledge in tick biology and ecology
- present up to date epidemiology and epizootology of tick-borne infections of importance to human and veterinary medicine in Scandinavia and the Baltic region.
- discuss current trends regarding diagnostic methods, therapy and prophylaxis
- present ongoing projects and state-of-the art research, and discuss preliminary results, in order for the participants to exchange ideas and experiences
- identify priority areas for future inter-disciplinary collaboration and research

All speakers will be asked to supply digital manuscripts for publication. The proceedings of the meeting will be in the format of an interactive website.

Each participant is encouraged to bring his or her favourite poster (new or old) to the combined **Poster Museum and Get Together Party** on the first evening. This combined social and professional warming-up activity will hopefully ensure a high degree of interactivity and a friendly atmosphere during the rest of the meeting.

The members of the Programme Committee and the Organizing Committee will make their most to provide all participants with a truly interdisciplinary setting in a friendly and informal atmosphere, in order for you all to get the most out of this meeting, and hopefully to create new scientific and professional networks.

Welcome!

Programme committee©

Ingvar Eliasson, MD, Ph D, and Anneli Bjöersdorff, DVM, Dept Clinical Microbiology;
Mats Haglund, MD, Ph D and Björn Olsen, MD, Ph D, Assoc prof, Dept Infectious Diseases, Kalmar County Hospital, Kalmar, Sweden; Johan Berglund, MD, Ph D, Assoc prof, Blekinge Institute for Research & Development, Karlshamn, Sweden; Åke Lundkvist, Ph D, Assoc prof, and Sirkka Vene, Lic Med Sc, Dept. of Virology, SIIDC – Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control, Solna, Sweden.

Organizing committee: Tony Björn, Marianne Hedman, Ulf Garpmo, Mona Forsberg.

Correspondence: Marianne Hedman, Electra-Box Diagnostica, Box 2035, SE-135 02 Tyresö, Sweden. Website: <http://www.rczee.org/tick.html>. Email addresses can be found on the website.

Preliminary programme

Wednesday 28 March

15.00–18.00 Registration

18.30– Poster Museum / Get Together Party

Thursday 29 March

- Key Note Speakers. Moderator: Johan Berglund
- 08.00–08.45 **The biology of ticks.** Prof Jeremy Gray, Dept of Environmental Resource Management, Faculty of Agriculture, Univ College Dublin, Republic of Ireland.
- 08.45–09.30 **Structure and function of the surface proteins of Borrelia species.** Dr Jonas Bunikis, Dept of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, University of California, Irvine, USA.
- 09.30–10.00 *Coffee break*
- 10.00–10.45 **Tick-Borne Encephalitis.** Dr Mats Haglund, Dept Infectious Diseases, Kalmar County Hospital, Kalmar, Sweden.
- 10.45–11.30 **Granulocytic Ehrlichioses in Scandinavia.** Dr Anneli Bjöersdorff, Dept Clinical Microbiology, Kalmar County Hospital, Kalmar, Sweden.
- 11.30–12.00 **Tick-Borne Infections – the CDC perspective.** Dr Robert F Massung, National Center for Infectious diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.
- 12.00–13.00 *Lunch*
- 13.00–14.30 Free communications. Moderator: Åke Lundkvist
(6 speakers)
- 14.30–15.00 *Coffee Break*
- 15.00–17.00 Round Table Discussions (parallell sessions):
Theme I. Laboratory diagnosis of Lyme borreliosis.
Theme II. Laboratory diagnosis of granulocytic ehrlichioses.
Theme III. Evolutionary aspects of tick-borne infectious agents, their vectors and hosts.
Theme IV. Immunoprophylaxis of tick-borne infections.
- 18.00 Departure by bus to Kalmar Castle
- 18.30– Medieval dinner and entertainment!
- ### Friday 30 March
- 08.30–10.00 Free communications. Moderator: Björn Olsen
(6 speakers)
- 10.00–10.30 *Coffee Break*
- 10.30–12.00 (6 speakers)
- 12.00–13.00 *Lunch*
- 13.00–14.30 Late breaking news. Panel discussion. Future prospects. Concluding remarks.
Moderator: Ingvar Eliasson